REMARKS

Claims 1-15 and 17-19 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-6, 9-14 and 17-19 have been amended. No new matter has been added to the amended claims.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the subject application as amended herein. This Amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action dated April 19, 2006.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-15 and 17-19

Claims 1-15, and 17-19 are newly rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) (hereinafter, "Section 103(a)") as being unpatentable over Narayanaswamy (U.S. Pat. No. 6,938,069), hereinafter, "Narayanaswamy", in view of Carey (U.S. Pat. No. 6,714,793), hereinafter, "Carey", in further view of Applicant Admitted Prior Art, hereinafter, "AAPA".

Applicants respectfully traverse all rejections and request reconsideration for all of the pending claims in light of the amendments to the claims.

Independent claims 1, 2 and 17 have been amended to clarify the scope of some of the claimed embodiments of the present invention. Claim 1, for example, has been amended to recite "one or more of the clients with IM client applications of the same types and one or more of the clients with IM client applications of different types" and "a Short Message Service Center (SMSC) server to which at least one of the clients is connected". Claim 1 has also been amended to recite "a buffer server interconnected with the SMSC server using a sequential message handshaking protocol corresponding to that used by the SMSC server, wherein the interconnection provides for the communication of messages between the buffer

server and the SMSC server in steady, timed flows with minimal latency and connection disruptions". Claims 2 and 17 have been similarly amended. Support for the amendments are found in the specification, for example on page 5, lines 13-14,17-18; page 6, lines 21-22; and page 13, line 9.

Applicants respectfully submit that the amended claims are novel and nonobvious over Narayanaswamy in view of Carey and further in view of AAPA.

The cited references do not teach all the elements of amended claim 1. Neither Narayanaswamy nor Carey teach an IM system with "one or more of the clients with IM client applications of the same types and one or more of the clients with IM client applications of different types". The novelty of Applicant's claims includes increasing the speed of IM transmission over unstable, slow networks even between clients of different IM client applications/IM systems. As such, not all the elements of amended claim 1 are taught by the references.

In addition, the references further fail to teach an SMSC server interconnected with a buffer server using a sequential message handshaking protocol corresponding to that used by the SMSC server. Narayanaswamy does not teach a separate buffer server, but rather a "dialogue buffer". It is not obvious that the dialogue buffer is upon a separate server but rather the dialogue buffer is disclosed as an adjunct of the meeting server. Narayanaswamy teaches a "hub and spoke" method of communication and there is no indication of more than one server. Further, contrary to Examiner's contention that the APAA teaches sequential message handshaking protocol between the buffer server and the SMSC server, Applicant points out that the APAA specifies sequential message handshaking in the context of an internet-connected SMSC and further describes the problem with such handshaking on page

4, lines 8-10, which would tend to teach away from its use. As such it would not have been obvious to use such handshaking.

Neither is there anywhere disclosed in Narayanaswamy of a "buffer server interconnected with the SMSC server...wherein the interconnection provides for the communication of messages between the buffer server and the SMSC server *in steady, timed flows with minimal latency and connection disruptions*". Examiner points to col. 4, lines 22-40 and Col. 5, 54-63, but these citations are devoid of such limitations recited by amended claim 1. Moreover, neither does Carey provide for the element. Carey teaches a "routing server 24". The role of the routing server is to keep a profile for each subscribing user and even serves in a user registering to become a subscriber (Carey, col. 3, lines 19-22, col. 4, lines 11-13). As such Carey's "routing server" does not in any way disclose the structure of "buffer server" as recited in claim 1. Further, Carey fails to disclose the protocol of a sequential message handshaking between a buffer server and SMSC server and in fact, teaches away from such protocol by preferably using TCP/IP, a *non-sequential* handshaking messaging protocol. This non-sequential handshaking is further shown by the message in Carey being described as "divided up into multiple packets of data and sent at various intervals". As such, there exists no motivation to use Carey to arrive at Applicant's invention. Neither does Carey provide for all the required elements of amended claim 1.

Furthermore, neither is there any disclosure in Narayanaswamy, that the "buffer server also being interconnected with the IM server using a protocol compatible therewith in a manner where message handshaking is not required to be performed sequentially and thus accommodate higher latency and instability problems with the computer network". Again, the same citation is used by the Examiner on page 5 of the Office Action to disclose this

element, but there is no such teaching found in the cited lines. A buffer dialogue in Narayanaswamy is a component part of the meeting server and is not disclosed as a separate buffer server. As such no teaching of a particular communication protocol is taught as no requirement to combat higher latency and instability would exist nor is shown to exist.

For at least these reasons, it respectfully submitted that amended claim 1 and its dependent claims are novel and nonobvious over Narayanaswamy in view of Carey and in view of APAA. The dependent claims are novel and nonobvious also for the additional elements they each recite. It is respectfully held that Examiner has not identified where in the AAPA elements in dependent claims are described and only makes a general cite to page 3 or page 4 of the AAPA. For instance regarding claims 11 and 12, Applicant respectfully requests Examiner to specifically point to where on page 3 of the AAPA there is described a "buffer server of the SMSC server" having "memory to buffer up to 255 instant messages".

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of amended claim 1 and respective dependent claims under Section 103(a). Claims 2 and 17 and their dependent claims are also allowable over Narayanaswamy in view of Carey and further in view of AAPA for similar reasons.

Conditional Request For Constructive Assistance

Applicant has made a diligent effort to amend the claims of this application so that they define novel and unobvious structure. If, for any reason, the Examiner believes that the claims of this application are not yet in full condition for allowance, applicant respectfully requests her constructive assistance and suggestions pursuant to the spirit of MPEP § 2173.02 and § 707.07(j). This will enable the undersigned to place this application in fully allowable

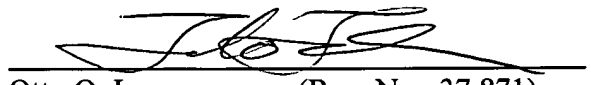
condition as soon as possible and without the need for further proceedings. The Examiner is authorized to make any needed minor corrections or changes.

CONCLUSION

The above-discussed remarks are believed to place the present Application in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the above amendments, the Examiner is requested to telephone Applicant's representative at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 19, 2006



Otto O. Lee (Reg. No.: 37,871)
Juneko Jackson (Reg. No.: 48,870)
Marie G. Capuyan (Reg. No.: 52,695)
Intellectual Property Law Group LLP
Attorneys for Applicant

Atty Docket No.: YSAP.CHIKKA.PT6
Contact No.: 408-286-8933